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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION TO HOLD HEARING ON THE IMPACT OF HURRICANES FIONA AND IAN ON COMMUNICATIONS

Washington, D.C. – FCC Chairwoman Jessica Rosenworcel announces today that the FCC will hold a virtual field hearing on November 17 to hear from a diverse range of stakeholders about the impact of Hurricanes Fiona and Ian on communications and the recovery effort. Last month Chairwoman Rosenworcel visited Puerto Rico and Florida with staff from the Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau to meet with local officials, first responders, and stakeholders and to survey the restoration after these hurricanes. The upcoming hearing, to be held as part of the Commission's November Open Meeting, will focus largely on coordination between the communications and power sectors in response to these disasters. The hearing will provide an opportunity to gather new information and lessons learned so that U.S. networks are better prepared for future storms like Tropical Storm Nicole. The FCC is monitoring the storm as it progresses.

The hearing will be webcast at: www.fcc.gov/live. Open captioning will be provided as well as a text only version on the FCC website. Other reasonable accommodations for people with disabilities are available upon request. In your request, include a description of the accommodation you will need and a way we can contact you if we need more information. Last minute requests will be accepted but may be impossible to fill. Send an e-mail to: fcc.504@fcc.gov or call the Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau at 202-418-0530. Additional information about participants and specific issues to be discussed at this field hearing will be provided in a subsequent Public Notice and will be updated online at www.fcc.gov/hearing-impact-communications-hurricanes-fiona-and-ian.

Public Attendance – The hearing is scheduled to commence following the Open Meeting in the Commission Meeting Room of the Federal Communications Commission, 45 L Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. While the Open Meeting and hearing are open to the public, the FCC headquarters building is not open access, and all guests must check in with and be screened by FCC security at the main entrance on L Street. Attendees at the Open Meeting and hearing will not be required to have an appointment but must otherwise comply with protocols outlined at: https://www.fcc.gov/visit.

Press Access – Members of the news media are welcome to attend and will be provided reserved seating on a first-come, first-served basis. Press may also direct questions to the Office of Media Relations (OMR): MediaRelations@fcc.gov. Questions about credentialing should be directed to OMR.

For further information regarding this hearing, please contact Rebecca.Lockhart@fcc.gov.